

There are a number of important news items I'd like to call your attention to, ranging from travel requirements to the digital television conversion.

Three local stations have already made the switch from analog TV signals to digital signals. Those stations are KCBA, KION and KQET. The remaining stations, KSBW and KSMS, will make the switch on June 12. On that date, all televisions must be digital ready, either internally or through an external digital converter box. For those who have not yet purchased a box, the TV Converter Box Coupon Program is still available.

Households may apply for coupons online at www.DTV2009.gov , by phone at 1-888-DTV-2009 (1-888-388-2009), via fax at 1-877-DTV-4ME2 (1-877-388-4632) or by mail to P.O. Box 2000, Portland, OR 97208-2000. Deaf or hard of hearing callers may dial 1-877-530-2634 (English TTY) or 1-866-495-1161 (Spanish TTY). Nursing home residents may apply with the paper application available downloadable at

www.DTV2009.gov

. For more information about the Coupon Program, please visit www.DTV2009.gov and for questions about the DTV transition, go to

www.dtv.gov

or call 1-888-CALL-FCC.

For Central Coast residents who will be traveling soon, there have been some important changes to document requirements when returning to the United States. Before June 1, travelers returning from Western Hemisphere destinations by air require a passport, but those traveling by ship, car or bus only require identification and proof of citizenship. After June 1, all travelers returning to the United States must have a valid passport. Exception include young children and children traveling in school groups. For more information, visit the Department of Homeland Security's Web site: www.GetYouHome.gov .

Finally, I'd like to remind you that I will again be holding town halls throughout the Central Coast in August. I will be sending out further information as those events are confirmed, and you can always check back at my Web site, www.farr.house.gov. Also, I hold occasional telephone town halls, chances for me to take questions while I'm working in Washington. If you'd like to be included in these calls, please contact my office [here](#) .

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